

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION AND HONOR OF
THE LIFE OF DR. BERNARDINE
LACEY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of my dear friend, Dr. Bernardine Lacey, who passed away on March 26, 2021. It is with deep sorrow that I mourn her loss, and deep affection that I honor her beautiful legacy.

Dr. Lacey was born on July 28, 1932, in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Despite her humble beginnings, she successfully went on to build a formidable and impactful career in the nursing profession. Dr. Lacey's expansive education began when she received her nursing degree from the Gilfoy School of Nursing at the Mississippi Baptist Hospital in Jackson. This would be one of the first of many pioneering efforts Dr. Lacey would trailblaze to break barriers as one of the first Black students admitted into Georgetown University's Nursing program, where she completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) in 1969. Thereafter, Dr. Lacey earned her Master of Arts from Howard University in 1985. Her tenacity did not allow her to stop there. She would go on to earn her terminal degree in her 50's with her Doctor of Education from the prestigious Columbia University's Teacher's College in 1991.

Throughout her career path, Dr. Lacey served Howard University Hospital for more than 30 years. While there is a robust list of accomplishments that are too many to exhaust here, to name a few, Dr. Lacey became the Founding Dean and Professor at Western Michigan University's School of Nursing, where she remained until 1999. Thereafter, she went on to act as Special Assistant to the President of Western Michigan University. Other notable titles held include: Professor and Chair in the Department of Nursing at Prince George's Community College; Executive Director of Children's National Medical Center, School Health Program; and Chairperson in the Department of Nursing at Bowie State University. In 2018, coming out of retirement, Dr. Lacey was led back to Howard University, where she served as Vice-Chair for the College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. In this role, she acted as a trusted advisor to the Dean, worked to expand clinical affiliations, and established best practices for accreditation visits and scholarship and grant opportunities.

Throughout her 88-years of living life to the fullest, Dr. Lacey received numerous accolades—which are tangible testaments to her undeniable impact on the intersection of nursing and our nursing education communities. Dr. Lacey became a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing; was honored as a Distinguished Alumna at Georgetown University; a

recipient of the Legacy of Leadership Award from Howard University; and in 2014, Dr. Lacey was inducted as a "Living Legend" by the American Academy of Nursing where they inducted her into the Academy's Hall of Fame. In addition, the College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences at Howard University will continue to recognize Dr. Lacey's impact by initiating an annual "Bernardine M. Lacey Research Day," to be established next year.

Dr. Lacey's significant contributions to the field of nursing and public health are widely appreciated by a host of colleagues, friends, and students. In addition to her professional accomplishments, Dr. Lacey walked with timeless class, grace, style, and courage, all while quick to offer a warm smile. Most especially, I am grateful to Dr. Lacey for the guidance and support as my application sponsor that she provided to me upon my 2020 induction as a Fellow to the American Academy of Nursing. Dr. Lacey served as an enduring connection between my office and the nursing community.

Madam Speaker, allow me this moment to express condolences to Dr. Lacey's family, friends, and colleagues. Though her presence will be sorely missed by many, including myself, I pray that we may find solace in remembering her legacy for years to come.

JULISSA NUNEZ OCEGUERA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Julissa Nunez Ocegura for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Julissa Nunez Ocegura is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Julissa Nunez Ocegura is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Julissa Nunez Ocegura for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

MADE IN AMERICA ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Made in America Act" with

U.S. Senator TAMMY BALDWIN (D-WI). Our bicameral and bipartisan bill would strengthen "Buy America" requirements for all major federal infrastructure programs, including federally funded highway, rail, transit, aviation, levee, and water projects.

The "Made in America Act" identifies federal programs that fund infrastructure not currently subject to "Buy America" standards and ensures that building materials used in these taxpayer-funded projects are produced domestically. When setting standards to determine which materials used in construction will be considered "Made in America," the bill requires the Department of Commerce to ensure that their manufacturing processes support American jobs.

Congress is poised to make the most significant investment in our nation's infrastructure in nearly half a century. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to advance commonsense "Buy America" and "Make it in America" policies to rebuild and modernize our nation's crumbling infrastructure. In the process, we will create thousands of well-paying jobs that can never be outsourced and make America competitive in the 21st century.

Unfortunately, numerous Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports have confirmed that many of our nation's existing trade obligations often provide trading partners more opportunity to win American government procurement work than American businesses receive in return. The "Made in America Act" would take steps to correct this imbalance by ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent on American-made materials created by American workers and businesses.

Madam Speaker, Americans are right to expect that taxpayer dollars spent on infrastructure projects support domestic manufacturing. I want to thank my House colleagues for their support as the bill's original cosponsors. I urge all Members to join us in cosponsoring this critical legislation. As a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I plan to make the "Made in America Act" a majority priority in the 2021 surface transportation reauthorization and any infrastructure package.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF
GERALD IRONS, SR.

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Gerald Irons, a treasured member of my community, who sadly passed away Thursday, April 1, 2021.

Born May 2, 1947 in Gary, Indiana, Gerald Irons, Sr.'s life was marked by outstanding achievement and service. After graduating from Gary Roosevelt High School, Gerald attended the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore. During his time in college, he excelled

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